Hearing handicapped people

1870. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to promote awareness about hearing handicapped;

(b) whether Government are also creating a cadre of trained professionals who can help hearing handicapped people;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the details of the institutions responsible for helping the hearing handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Awareness about Hearing Handicap is promoted by Government through people to people contact, conducting of seminars/workshop/ short-term courses for professionals in various fields, distribution of print, audio, audio visual material, holding of exhibitions, collaborating with associations working in this field and while distributing hearing aids to persons with hearing handicap. On a pilot basis a serial on hearing impairment is being broadcasted through 20 All India Radio Stations.

(b) and (c) The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi has a cadre of trained professionals in the areas of speech and hearing RCI has developed and recognised courses in the area of speech and hearing impairment at diploma, degree and master level which are being conducted by approximately 64 centres all over the country.

(d) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped. Mumbai has published a directory of Rehabilitation Resources for Persons with Hearing impairment in India. As per this report, there are 431 organizations rendering services to persons with Hearing Impairment.